

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
MIDDLE DISTRICT OF FLORIDA
ORLANDO DIVISION

In re:)
)
DEADLINE FOR ATTORNEYS TO) Administrative Order
PARTICIPATE IN ELECTRONIC CASE) ORL-2004-2
FILING)
)
_____)

AMENDED
ORDER ESTABLISHING DEADLINE FOR ATTORNEYS
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE ELECTRONIC CASE FILING SYSTEM

Last year, this court implemented the Case Management/Electronic Case Filing system. Attorneys started to file pleadings using the ECF system in June, 2003. However, many attorneys still have failed to voluntarily make the essential conversion to the ECF system. Now, the court is facing substantial budget cuts and the potential loss of staff, requiring it to become more efficient. To promote greater efficiency in the administration of bankruptcy cases, the Orlando Division will require all attorneys appearing before this court to participate in the ECF system, effective **September 1, 2004**. Therefore, it is

ORDERED:

1. All attorneys, trustees, or examiners who file documents in the Orlando Division, whether on behalf of a debtor, a trustee, a creditor, or some other interested party, must file all documents and pleadings electronically using the ECF system no later than **September 1, 2004**.

2. Exceptions to the mandatory use of the ECF system include:

- A. Documents under seal;
- B. Pleadings or documents submitted by parties without legal representation;

C. Unanticipated inability to use the ECF system due to an internet failure by the filer. (Filers experiencing such a failure shall submit the pleading or document on diskette or CD in a PDF format with an "Affidavit and Request to File" attached. The clerk then will electronically file the pleading or document on behalf of the filer.);

D. Unanticipated inability to use the ECF system due to an internet failure by the Court. (If the ECF system is not accessible due to the Court's failure, the filer shall print the notification that the ECF system is not accessible and submit it with the pleading or document to be filed either on diskette or CD in PDF format.);

E. Trial or evidentiary hearing exhibits are to be filed on paper unless otherwise ordered in a particular case; and

F. Chapter 11 ballots.

3. At this time, only the Orlando Division is requiring mandatory use of the ECF system, effective **September 1, 2004**, within the jurisdiction of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Middle District of Florida. However, the entire district is anticipated to require similar mandatory usage in the near future.

4. After **September 1, 2004**, the Court may order attorneys filing pleadings or documents via paper to show cause why they cannot use the ECF system. Further, the Court may order pleadings and documents be stricken if they are not filed using the ECF system.

DONE AND ORDERED at Orlando, Florida, on June 24, 2004.



ARTHUR B. BRISKMAN
United States Bankruptcy Judge



KAREN S. JENNEMANN
United States Bankruptcy Judge